

Unit 7

Family Letter

Reveal
MATH[®]

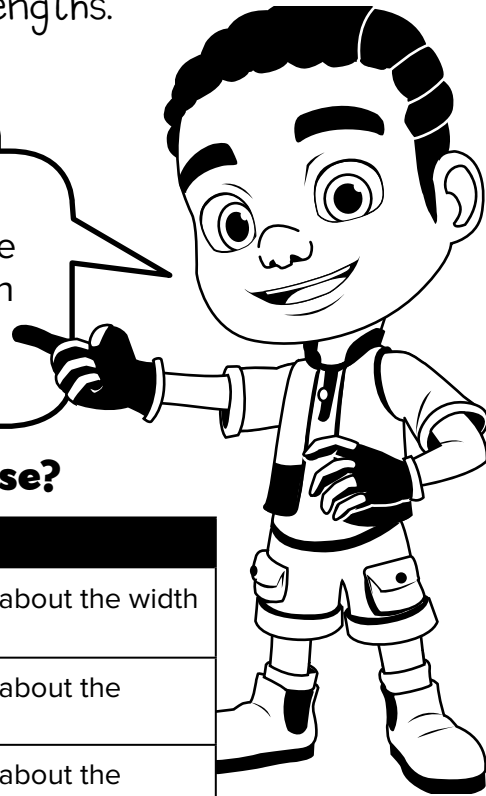
Dear Family,

In this unit, we will be learning how to measure and compare lengths. We will first focus on measuring and comparing lengths in inches, feet, and yards. Later, we will focus on measuring and comparing lengths in centimeters and meters. We will conclude this unit with lessons on solving problems involving lengths.

STEM Career Kid for this Unit

Hi, I'm Jordan.

Hello! My name is Jordan, and I want to be an animal trainer. Animal trainers use math when they measure how much animals have grown.



What math terms will your child use?

Vocabulary	Definition
inch	a customary unit of length that is about the width of a quarter
foot	a customary unit of length that is about the length of a football
yard	a customary unit of length that is about the length of a baseball bat
centimeter	a metric unit of length that is about the width of a fingernail
meter	a metric unit of length that is about the width of a door



What can your child do at home?

Encourage your child to measure the lengths of objects around your home in inches and then in feet. Your child can then compare their measurements by determining whether it takes more inches or feet to measure the objects. Have your child also measure objects in centimeters and meters and compare the measurements.

What Will Students Learn in this Unit?

Measuring with Inches, Feet, Yards, Centimeters, and Meters

In this unit, your child learns how to measure the lengths of objects by lining up one end of each object with 0 on a measuring tool and finding the number on the measuring tool where the other end of the object lines up. Students will first measure the lengths of objects in inches, feet, and yards. Students will also determine whether a given object is best measured with a ruler, yardstick, or tape measure. Students also measure the lengths of objects in centimeters and meters. Students will determine whether a given object is best measured with a centimeter ruler or a meterstick.

Relating Units of Measure

Your child also learns to relate measurements in inches, feet, and yards and then in centimeters and meters. It is important that he/she understands how two measurements of an object given in different units compare to each other. For example, your child should comprehend that it takes more inches than feet and more centimeters than meters to measure an object's length. Have your child practice measuring objects twice; first in the smaller unit and then in the larger unit. Then have your child identify whether his/her measurements have more of the smaller or larger unit of measure.

Example:

Measure the length of a bookshelf in inches and feet.

A bookshelf is about 36 inches long.

A bookshelf is about 3 feet long.

Do your measurements have more inches or feet?

My measurements have more inches.

Comparing Lengths

Your child also learns to use subtraction to find how much longer one object is than another. It is important that he/she can properly measure objects before comparing them. Work with your child on properly measuring objects. Once measuring is mastered, students can then focus on comparing the lengths of two different objects. Have your child measure two objects in inches and then determine how much longer one object is than the other. Repeat the activity with two other objects, this time measuring in centimeters. Your child should be able to compare the lengths of objects using measurement units from the customary and metric systems.